

**DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION**

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May 12, 1995

To: Delta Protection Commission  
From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director  
Subject: Update and Recommendation on Recreation Study of the Delta

Background:

At the March 1995 meeting, the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) discussed participation in a study of recreational uses of the Delta, focusing on boating and fishing, to be carried out by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) over an 18 month period. The proposed project would cost approximately \$265,000. The study would provide current recreational use figures for the entire Delta for use by the Commission to amend the Plan policies on recreation and access, and for use by other federal, State and local agencies in their planning processes.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission approved continued development and refinement of the proposed project, agreed to participate in the study with a total Commission financial participation not to exceed \$50,000, plus staff research of public and private recreation facilities, and with the formation of a Commission Subcommittee to provide oversight.

Recreation Subcommittee:

The Subcommittee has been created with the following members: Chair: Supervisor Don Nottoli; Commissioner Bill Curry; Commissioner Donald Murphy; Kate Hansel for Department of Water Resources (DWR); and Mervin Hee for Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

Recreation Citizen Advisory Committee members: Sally Shanks (Farmer, San Joaquin County); Chris Lauritzen (Harbormaster, Contra Costa County); Steve Woodard (Harbormaster, San Joaquin County); and Gil Labrie (Delta Municipal Advisory Council, Sacramento County).

The Subcommittee met on Monday, May 8, 1995, and reviewed in detail the proposed work program, budget and Timeline for the study.

Recreation Subcommittee Recommendations:

Subcommittee recommendations, reflected in the attached, revised work program include:

- \* Agreed to earlier product date of September/October 1996, to allow time for the Commission to consider actions based on the study.
- \* Clarification that the study will only discuss Delta resource impacts, not duplicate on-going studies, such as Department of Boating and Waterways' study of levee erosion.
- \* Clarification that DPR will develop information on other recreation use in the Delta, in addition to focusing on current, statistically valid user information on boating and fishing uses.
- \* Agreement that DPR will evaluate the need for additional data collection methods that would address recreation uses, in addition to boating and fishing.
- \* Clarification that DPR will use an outside consultant to assist in defining economic model.
- \* Agreement that the proposed economic information gathering is an important element of the recreation study.
- \* Agreement that the Subcommittee would have an active role in reviewing the various phases of the study and would attempt to reach consensus on issues and policy matters that are forwarded to the Commission.

Revised Costs and Staffing Information:

NOTE: This reflects commitments as of May 10, 1995. Staff will provide an update at the May 25, 1995 Commission meeting.

1. Costs. The overall costs will remain as originally estimated. The costs will be offset in the following manner:

\$50,000 from DPC

\$100,000 from DPR (including federal matching funds)

\$50,000 from DBW

2. Staff.

\* Most staff work will be provided by DPR as outlined in the agreement. Some student hours will be provided through DPR.

\* DFG will provide some staff time in developing maps of fishing areas and evaluating results pertaining to fishing.

\* Approximately \$25,000 in in-lieu staff work by DPC staff developing the inventory and maps of public and private recreational facilities and historic sites.

3. Budget Shortfall.

\* The proposed is still short approximately \$50,000.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Commission approve the attached, revised agreement and authorize the Chair to execute the Interagency Agreement on behalf of the Commission, subject to additional funds being obtained.

Attachment

## I. THE GOALS:

- A. To provide the Delta Protection Commission with strategies which may be used to assist in the future implementation of the Recreation Element of the Delta Land Use and Resource Management Plan.
- B. To provide the Delta Protection Commission with a recreation study to be used as a guide in reviewing the plans and actions of both public agencies and private entities as they effect recreation opportunities in the Delta.
- C. To provide the Delta Protection Commission with reliable information on current and projected levels of recreational use of the Delta which the Commission may use to encourage both public agencies and private entities to provide appropriate levels of recreational facilities and access to Delta lands and waterways.

## II. THE OBJECTIVES:

- A. Assess the current demand for recreation activities in the Delta, including fishing and boating, the most popular activities. is on
- B. Identify current and future recreation opportunities in the Delta. REVISED
- C. Identify and discuss key recreation issues in the Delta and the impact of these issues on the local economy and the impact of these issues on the Delta. ORIGINALS
- D. Identify and inventory existing recreation opportunities in the Delta.
- E. Estimate the future demand for specific recreation activities in the Delta.
- F. Evaluate the adequacy of existing public and private facilities in meeting current and future recreation demand.
- G. Provide recommendations on a variety of recreation related issues with the intent of improving the quality of recreation in the Delta and reducing the impact of recreation on Delta resources.

### III. THE TASKS:

#### A. Develop Interagency Agreement:

- Prepare study proposal and submit to DPC
- Meet and confer with DWR, DBW, and DFG regarding possible participation in study
- Prepare draft Interagency Agreement, finalize, then execute

#### B. Conduct literature search, including background investigation:

- Review previous recreation studies, plans and reports
- Review current land-use plans of Delta counties
- Review and evaluate existing laws and current legislation pertaining to Delta recreation

#### C. Establish recreational advisory committee to provide project input and technical assistance

#### D. Prepare a general overview of the Delta, including:

- Geographical and geopolitical boundaries
- Uses of public and private lands, levees, and waterways
- Transportation and traffic circulation, including key access points
- Role of local government and state and federal regulatory agencies

E. Estimate the economic benefit of recreation to the Delta economy, including:

- Development of an economic model
- Estimation of local expenditures from recreational boating and fishing (based upon questionnaires returned from sample survey)
- Estimation of expenditures from salaries and wages of recreation based industries in the Delta (based upon EDD's Standard Industrial Classification Manual)

F. Identify the known impacts of recreation on sensitive Delta resources

G. Document current recreation uses of the Delta, with an emphasis on fishing and boating:

- Summarize past and present recreation trends
- Develop mailing list of randomly selected registered boat owners in California
- Develop mailing list of randomly selected licensed anglers in California
- Develop questionnaire to be mailed to random sample of boat owners and anglers
- Pretest questionnaire, analyze results, modify questionnaire as necessary, test again if necessary, mail out questionnaires

- Evaluate returned questionnaires and analyze results
  - Conduct other surveys, as needed, to verify results of mail-out questionnaires and/or document other recreation activities in addition to fishing and boating
- H. Examine the demand for recreation in the Delta using current population projections and existing statewide recreation participation rates as provided in DPR's 1993 California Outdoor Recreation Plan
- I. Identify and document current recreation opportunities in the Delta:
- Inventory and map existing parks, fishing access locations, and other public recreation lands and facilities
  - Inventory and map existing marinas and other commercial recreation lands/facilities
  - Inventory and map hunting clubs, yachting clubs and other private recreation opportunities
  - Inventory and map private property used for informal recreation
  - Inventory significant historical and cultural resources
- J. Assess whether the current supply of facilities and opportunities ("I" above) are sufficient to meet current levels of recreation use and demand ("G" and "H" above)
- K. Identify and map potential future recreation areas and facilities provided that the study determines there is a need for additional areas/facilities and that they can be provided without significant negative impact on Delta resources

L. Summarize the study findings and develop recommended strategies for implementing goals of the study

M. Prepare draft document:

- Send out preliminary draft for peer review and make revisions as necessary
- Schedule and conduct public meeting(s), if necessary
- Submit final draft to DPC for approval and make revision as necessary



PROPOSED SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA RECREATION STUDY  
BUDGET OUTLINE  
February 1995

	1995-96	1996-97
STAFF		
Staff Park and Recreation Specialist*	\$ 75,000	\$37,500
Associate Park and Recreation Specialist*	68,000	34,000
Student Assistants* (4)	<u>20,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
 SUBTOTALS	 \$163,000	 \$ 81,500
* 1 person year in 1995-96 and .5 person year in 1996-97, also, dollar amount includes salary plus benefits		
 OPERATING EXPENSES		
General Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Postage	3,000	500
Communication (telephones)	n.c.	n.c.
Travel	2,000	500
Technical Committee (support)	n.c.	n.c.
Printing and reprographics	2,000	1,000
Consultants	10,000	
Clerical support	n.c.	n.c.
 SUBTOTALS	 \$ <u>18,000</u>	 \$ <u>2,500</u>
 TOTAL BUDGET FOR 1995/96 FY	 \$ 181,000	
 TOTAL BUDGET FOR 1996/97 FY		 \$ 84,000
 GRAND TOTAL	 \$265,000	

PROPOSED SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA RECREATION STUDY  
STAFF TIME ALLOCATION SCHEDULE  
February 1995

Provided below is a list of the study tasks. Following each task is an estimate of the staff time required to complete each task (expressed as a percent of the staff time required to complete the entire study).

- A. Develop Interagency Agreement 2%
- B. Conduct literature search 2%
- C. Establish multi-department task force to provide technical assistance 2%
- D. Prepare a general overview of the Delta 2%
- E. Estimate the economic benefit of recreation to the Delta economy 5%
- F. Discuss the impact of recreation on Delta resources 10%
- G. Document current recreation uses of the Delta, with an emphasis on fishing and boating 25%
- H. Examine the demand for recreation in the Delta 15%
- I. Identify and document current recreation opportunities in the Delta 15%
- J. Determine latent (unmet) demand for specific recreation activities 10%
- K. Identify and map potential future recreation areas and facilities (if necessary) 2%
- L. Summarize study findings and develop recommendations for implementation 5%
- M. Prepare draft document 5%

